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**STATE OF UTAH**

**SCHOOL & INSTITUTIONAL TRUST LANDS ADMINISTRATION**

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**SITLA ISSUES FIRST WIND POWER LEASE**

On January 19, 2009, the Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) issued its first lease for the development of wind energy resources on Utah's school trust lands. The 1560 acre lease was issued to a subsidiary of First Wind Energy, LLC, the developer of the 200 megawatt Milford Wind Project in Utah's Beaver and Millard counties.

The Trust Lands Administration anticipates that First Wind will locate approximately 11 wind turbine generators of up to 2.5 megawatts each on trust lands, depending on final engineering and turbine availability. First Wind will pay land rentals plus additional payments based upon the capacity of turbines located on school trust lands.

SITLA Director Kevin Carter says, "We appreciate First Wind's decision to locate a significant portion of their Milford Wind Project on school trust lands. In addition to providing renewable energy, this project and future projects like it will help support public education for many years to come."

The power generated will be sold to the cities of Los Angeles, Burbank, and Pasadena in Southern California. The lease is expected to generate several million dollars in revenue to the school trust over the initial 30-year lease term.

A number of other renewable energy projects are being constructed or considered on Utah school trust lands:

- The first new geothermal electric generation plant constructed in Utah in over 20 years has recently been completed by Raser Technologies, Inc. of Provo, Utah on school trust lands in Beaver County. An additional geothermal generation plant is being planned for adjacent trust lands.
- SITLA is currently in discussions with the private sector about leasing of trust lands in southwestern Utah for utility-scale concentrating solar power generation, and has leased lands for underground compressed air caverns that will permit storage of energy from intermittent wind and solar energy resources.
- SITLA is also considering several additional wind leasing opportunities throughout the state. SITLA estimates that renewable and alternative energy projects could generate as much as \$2 million per year to the school trust within five years.

Money generated from school trust lands is deposited in the state Permanent School Fund, a perpetual endowment that annually distributes income to each K-12 public school in Utah.

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